Abstract of the Invention

A system for selection by a user and delivery to the user of selected audio data files at a delivery rate of 2-100 times the delivery rate for normal, audibly perceptible playback of an audio data file. The user registers the user's selection of audio material with a central library of data files and a digitized and compressed omnibus file containing the user's selections is prepared and transmitted to the user at a high data transfer rate. The user receives downloads the omnibus file to a removable, high density diskette or PCMCIA card that may hold ten Mbytes to one Gbyte of digitized text or audio data, using a removable hard drive or its equivalent. The user carries this diskette or PCMCIA card until the user has an opportunity to decompress and play back the text or audio data files in audibly perceptible form. The central library contains either text files or audio data files in digitized compressed format. An audio data file may include E-mail messages, from which the system strips the routing information for more convenient playback by the user.

Disclosure

Abstract of the ~~Invention~~

A system for selection by a user and delivery to the user of selected audio data files at a delivery rate of 2-100 times the delivery rate for normal, audibly perceptible playback of an audio data file. The user registers the user's selection of audio material with a central library of data files and a digitized and compressed omnibus file containing the user's selections is prepared and transmitted to the user at a high data transfer rate. The user receives downloads the omnibus file to a removable, high density diskette or PCMCIA card that may hold ten Megabytes to one Gigabyte of digitized text or audio data, using a removable hard drive or its equivalent and a universal data interface that recognizes and compensates for omnibus files received in any of a plurality of input signal formats. The user carries this diskette or PCMCIA card until the user has an opportunity to decompress and playback the text or audio data files in audibly perceptible form. The central library contains either text files or audio data files in digitized compressed format. An audio data file may include E-mail messages, from which the system strips the routing information for more convenient playback by the user.